

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 1-4, 7-17, and 20-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zavracky et al. (US 6,552,704) in view of Sugawara et al. (US 6,504,523).

Claims 5, 6, 18 and 19 stand objected to as being dependent on rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 5, 6, 18 and 19 contain allowable subject matter. Based on the following discussions, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-4, 7-17, 20-24 are also allowable. Therefore, Applicants would like to defer rewriting claims 5, 6, 18 and 19 into independent claims until all the pending claims have been reconsidered.

All Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-4, 7-17, and 20-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zavracky et al. (US 6,552,704) in view of newly cited Sugawara et al. (US 6,504,523). This rejection is respectfully traversed based on the following reasons.

Independent claim 1, as amended in the amendment with the RCE, recites a method of driving a liquid crystal display device during one display frame including, among other things, the step of “applying a reference common voltage to the plurality of liquid crystal cells after

applying the one of the high-level common voltage and the low-level common voltage.”

(emphasis added) Similarly, independent claim 13, as amended in the amendment filed with the RCE, recites a method of driving a liquid crystal display device during one display frame including, among other things, a step of “applying a reference common voltage to the plurality of the liquid crystal cells after the allowing the liquid crystal cells to respond, wherein one of a high-level common voltage and a low-level common voltage is applied to the plurality of liquid crystal cells during the inputting step.” (emphasis added)

As presented in the prior communication filed with the RCE, Zavracky et al. teaches alternately applying a high common voltage and a low common voltage for every display frame, wherein the common voltage and the video signals alternate during response times of the liquid crystal cells. Moreover, Zavracky et al. discloses maintaining high-level or low-level common voltages during the application of the video signals. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Zavracky et al. fails to teach or suggest a method of driving a liquid crystal display device during one display frame including at least the step of “applying a reference common voltage to the plurality of liquid crystal cells after applying the one of the high-level common voltage and the low-level common voltage,” as recited by amended independent claim 1, and hence dependent claims 2-12. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that Zavracky et al. also fails to teach or suggest a method of driving a liquid crystal display device during one display frame including at least the step “applying a reference common voltage to the plurality of the liquid crystal cells after the allowing the liquid crystal cells to respond, wherein one of a high-level common voltage and a low-level common voltage is applied to the plurality of liquid crystal cells during the inputting step,” as recited by amended independent claim 13, and hence dependent claims 14-24.

Looking now to the secondary reference, the rejection asserts that Sugawara et al. allegedly teaches applying a reference common voltage after applying the one of the high-level common voltage and the low-level common voltage and therefore it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Zavracky et al. to include such a step to prevent flickering of images. It is respectfully submitted that this is a misreading of the teachings in Sugawara et al.

The rejection cites to FIGs. 3 and 10 as teaching “a reference common voltage ($V_{com} = 5V$) to a plurality of liquid crystal cells after applying the one of the high-level common voltage ($V_{gon} = 19V$) and low-level common voltage ($V_{goff} = -10V$)” citing to column 2, lines 43-58 and column 6, line 66 to column 7, line 20. Reading these figures in light of the cited sections of the Specification, it becomes immediately clear that “ V_{gon} ” and “ V_{goff} ” are not common voltages. Rather, “ V_{gon} ” and “ V_{goff} ” are disclosed as “potentials on gate line (202, 82).” (col. 2, lns. 50-52 and col. 7, lns. 3-5, respectively.) In another words, “ V_{gon} ” and “ V_{goff} ” are gate voltages applied to the gate electrodes for the TFTs on each row. “ V_{gon} ” and “ V_{goff} ” are not high-level common voltage and the low-level common voltage as alleged by the rejection. Therefore, Sugawara et al. also fails to teach “applying a reference common voltage to the plurality of liquid crystal cells after applying the one of the high-level common voltage and the low-level common voltage” as recited in claim 1 or “applying a reference common voltage to the plurality of the liquid crystal cells after the allowing the liquid crystal cells to respond, wherein one of a high-level common voltage and a low-level common voltage is applied to the plurality of liquid crystal cells during the inputting step” as recited in claim 13.

Since neither Zavracky et al. nor Sugawara et al. teaches the above-indicated limitations, it is respectfully submitted that the alleged combination of these two references, then, necessarily fails to teach the same. Consequently, for at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that neither Zavracky et al. nor Sugawara et al., individually or in combination, fails to render claims 1-24 unpatentable.

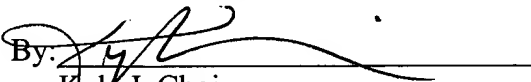
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

By: 
Kyle J. Choi
Reg. No. 41,240

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CUSTOMER NO. 09629
MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
Telephone: (202) 739-3000
Fax: (202) 739-3001